

## Church News.

### UNION MEETING OF ELKHART CO.

The meeting of the brothers and sisters and friends of the Brethren church of Elkhart Co., in union service is a thing of the past. The president called the meeting to order at 10:30 A. M. Devotional service conducted by Rev. Smith, of LaPaz. The paper by G. Leslie, subject, The need of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST in the home, was presented in such a manner for all to take home, if we care for those near and dear to us. A talk on, The importance of Sunday-school work, by G. Leslie, in which several took part trying to help one another. On account of sickness in his home, the secretary read the paper prepared by N. A. Frame, subject, Some reasons why we all should take the B. E. The time was well improved in telling how to do; but will we do it? After a song and Rev. Bemenderfer pronounced the benediction, we were dismissed for the morning hour.

At 1:30 P. M. the meeting was opened with singing, and the reading of the 103 Psalm, by Mrs. Bemenderfer; song and prayer by G. Leslie.

Papers were then called for. How acquaint the Brethren church throughout the country? by Rev. I. N. Miller. Discussion led by F. Ettleive. A goodly number took part in presenting views. How to establish a church in the city of Goshen, Indiana? The chair appointed a committee to investigate the feasibility of establishing a church there. Committee, G. Leslie, H. J. Schrock and E. Fryman. Why establish the Brethren church in name and deed? was presented by E. Fryman, in a few well chosen words. Discussion led by Rev. Bemenderfer, Neff and others. Let us call ourselves Brethren, and not be ashamed to tell the world.

Mrs. Osborn presented the subject of, Have the sisters a work to do? assisted by Mrs. Riggle and others.

The necessity of prayer, by Mrs. Feal, was a paper thoughtfully prepared. H. Landis, with others, spoke upon the subject. Some felt an inability to talk, knowing that prayer is our only comfort.

"How to Get Members to Attend Prayermeeting," was opened by Revs. Smith, Miller and others. They should be food for our souls.

For want of time, church and S. S. reports were omitted. K. C. reports were read, which were very encouraging, also the reports of the S. S. C. E.

It was thought best to have a treasurer for the expenses of the union meeting in the line of stationery and postage. G.

Leslie was the fortunate one. A motion was carried to have the papers that were read sent to the EVANGELIST for publication, also that the union meeting continue over Sunday.

The next meeting will be held at Mt. Union in three months. Adjourned to meet at 7:30 P. M. for communion service. Rev. Miller pronounced the benediction.

IDA A. SIMMONDS,  
Secretary.

### SORROWFUL EXPERIENCES.

We encounter them many times, as we go down the pathway of life. Among the pleasures, we find the thorns of sorrow, and sometimes the gloom is so great, as to make us forget for a time its antidote,—the love, and the promises of our Heavenly Father. Of the darker times, it is my present purpose to write.

Among the saddest and most sorrowful experiences it has been my lot to know, was the double funeral, in the Bear Creek congregation on Oct. 4th, when grandma,—Catherine Kimmel, and her son, Bro. M. C. Kimmel, were laid away wrapt in the sleep of death. These were among the most faithful of the faithful ones. Grandma had lived in the family of Bro. M. C. during the past seventeen years, and the home in which she lived was the preacher's home, and the stopping place of visitors in general to the Bear Creek church. And as she had lived in the same neighborhood for many years, she was widely known and loved by every one. Her advanced age,—81 yrs., 6 mo. 20 d., had prevented her from taking the active part in church work, which she had done in younger days, but she remained a very interested spectator, and wise counsellor, until the Lord called her to her reward, on Tuesday evening, October 1. She was the mother of eight children, five sons and three daughters, all of whom survive her, except Bro. M. C., who was her companion in death. She leaves thirty grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren, and a large neighborhood and brotherhood to mourn her departure. A mother in Israel has gone, and she awaits our coming beyond the river of death.

Of Bro. "Mike," as he was familiarly called, it would scarcely be possible to say too much in commendation. Since the organization of the Bear Creek Brethren church, he has been practically its leader, and the personal and trusted friend of every member of it. His voice, his example, and his pleading with the unconverted, have led many into the fold of Christ. As I stood by his casket, and beheld the whole community in tears, as one by one the people looked for the last time

upon his familiar face, I thought how grand to be thus loved, and to be worthy of it. No marble shaft is necessary to keep alive the memory of this noble man; he will live in the hearts of his Brethren while the Bear Creek church remains. He will be sadly missed in his family, in his church and in his neighborhood. There are many good brethren who survive him in his congregation, but his place will be vacant, for there are few like him to occupy it. Grandma's age warned us all that her earthly journey was nearly done, but we had hoped, and reasonably we thought, to have Bro. Kimmel with us for many years. How uncertain is life! He died on Wednesday, Oct. 3, aged 50 yr., 11 mo. 17 ds. Together in life, and not separated in death. Their love for each other was most tender, and loving and beloved, the mother and her son, passed from the church militant to the church triumphant together, and God be praised for this assurance. What would we do without a Christian hope? The funeral of these two faithful ones was very largely attended, and was conducted by Brethren Tombaugh, Holler (G. B.) and the writer. Theme of sermon, "Thankfulness in Sorrow." Text I Thess. 5:18.

On Sept. 22, only 12 days before the sad event spoken of above, I was called to officiate at a double funeral here at Gratis. The two children of a neighbor, Henry Bolten, were laid side by side in the same grave. Two brothers, Jesse S., aged 14 years 9 months and 2 days, and John W., aged 3 years 3 months and 26 days, departed this life in the early morning of Sept. 21, only one hour and a half apart. In life they had been inseparable companions, and in death they were not divided.

These are examples of the instability of earthly things. "Prepare to meet thy God."

"It is not for man to trifle;  
Life is brief, and sin is here,  
Our age is but a falling leaf,  
A dropping tear."

MARTIN SHIVELY,  
Gratis, Ohio.

WHAT we wish to do for our fellow creatures we must do first for ourselves. We can give them nothing save what God has already given us. We must become good before we can make them good, and wise before we can make them wise.—*Charles Kinsley.*

FAITH lifts the veil that shuts from mortal view the glories of heaven and permits us to see our departed loved ones forever happy in the paradise of God.